

January 25, 2012

Marquette County Road Commission
Darryll Sundberg, Chairperson
1610 North Second Street
Ishpeming, MI 49849

RE: Michigamme Highlands (Kidder Tract (fka Escanaba Paper 2))
Marquette County, Michigan
Proposed road easement

Dear Mr. Sundberg:

On January 5, 2012 I wrote to you concerning the Marquette County Road Commission deliberation of various alternatives for road construction as described in the "MDEQ Application County Road 595" dated October 6, 2011. In that letter, I noted that The Nature Conservancy (the "Conservancy") holds an interest in real estate in the form of a conservation easement covering real estate in Marquette County that would be damaged by Alternative 12A. However, upon further staff review, it appears that my letter did not accurately identify all of the affected land. Alternative 12A impacts two conservation easements held by the Conservancy over land described as follows:

Conservation Easement recorded at Liber 164, Page 570: Sections 31, 32 and 33 of Township 50 North, Range 28 West

Conservation Easement recorded at Liber 165, Page 713: Sections 21, 28 and 29 of Township 50 North, Range 28 West

The portion of each section protected by one of the conservation easements is illustrated on the enclosed map.

Each conservation easement contains the same substantive prohibitions on commercial activity, changes to topography and new roads that are in conflict with the road proposal as quoted in my earlier letter.

The Nature Conservancy is strongly opposed to Alternative 12A, the Mulligan Plains West Route, since it would violate the terms of the recorded conservation easements and would cause destruction and fragmentation of important conservation resources. Modification of the protections would require condemnation of the Conservancy's interest in the land.

Marquette County Road Commission
January 25, 2012
Page 2

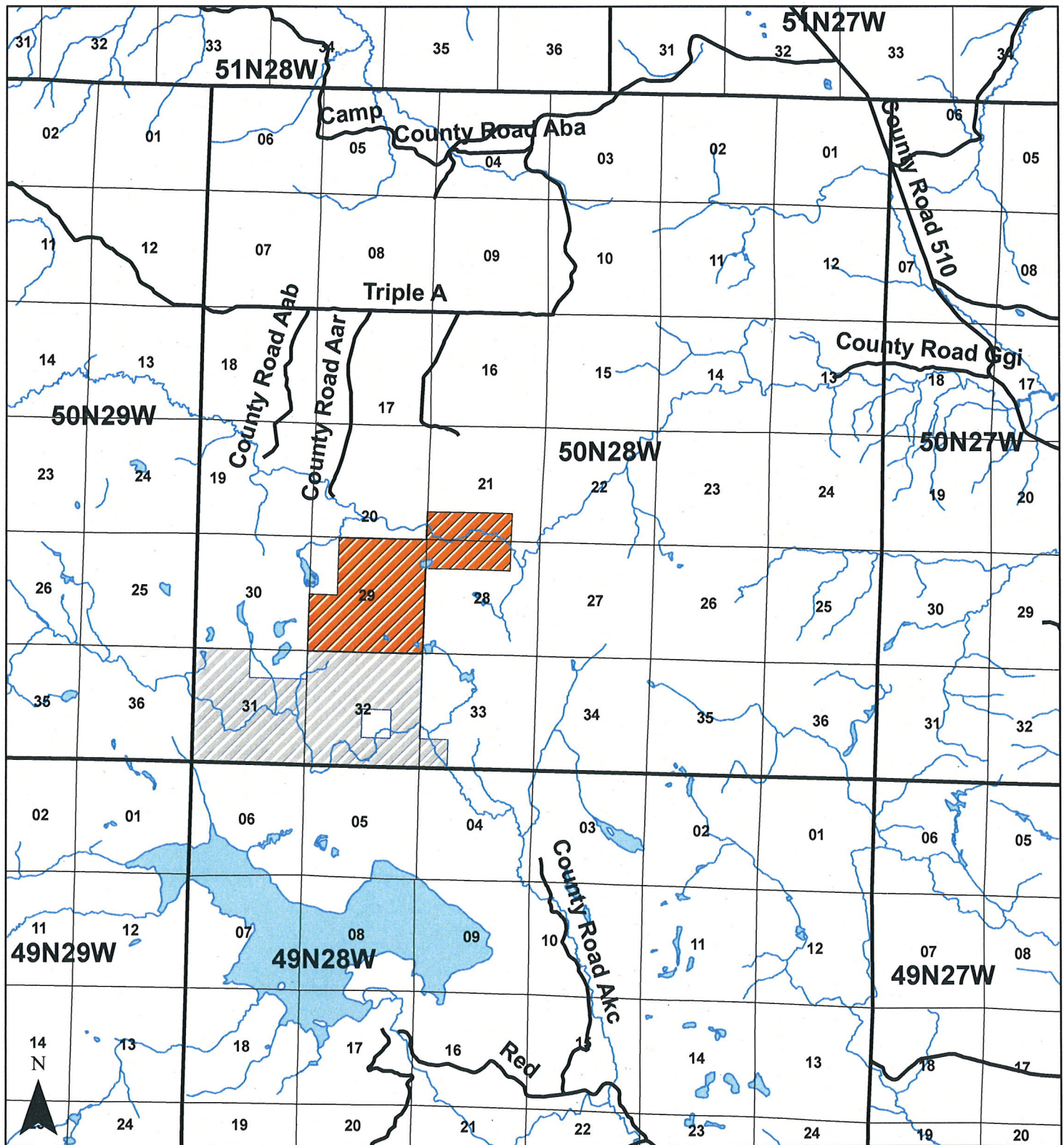
If you would like to engage in a discussion with the Conservancy's local staff in Marquette regarding the environmental impacts of various alternatives, feel free to contact Jeff Knoop, Director of Protection at 906-225-0399, ext. 4011.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gail Lewellan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gail Lewellan
Senior Attorney

cc: Helen Taylor, Michigan State Director
Mr. Jim Iwanicki, Operations Manager, Marquette County Road Commission



The Nature Conservancy Easement Property

RE: Michigamme Highlands (Kidder Tract (fka Escanaba Paper 2))
 Marquette County, MI
 Proposed road easement

-  Easement 1 - T50N R28W Sections 31, 32, 33
-  Easement 2 - T50N R28W Sections 21, 28, 29

The Nature Conservancy 
 Protecting nature. Preserving life.™